

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 02301 241647Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01
ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01
STR-04 TRSE-00 CEA-01 NEA-10 /084 W
-----250457Z 080801 /12

R 241521Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1157
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, OPEC, UNCTAD
SUBJECT: OPEC AID POLICY

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF ON MARCH 22 OPEC
SPECIAL FUND DIRECTOR-GENERAL IBRAHIM SHIHATA
COMMENTED ON OPEC'S MOTIVATION IN PROVIDING AID TO
THE 45 MSAS. IN RESPONSE TO ALLEGATION THAT OPEC
APPEARS INTERESTED IN INFLUENCING WORLD PRODUCERS
OF RAW MATERIALS IN LIGHT OF ITS SUCCESS IN CRUDE
OIL MARKET, SHIHATA SAID THAT, ALTHOUGH OPEC IS
SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF UNCTAD'S "COMMON
FUND" AS ONE FACTOR IN BRINGING ABOUT THE "NEW ECONOMIC
ORDER", IT WOULD NEVER MAKE SUPPORT FOR THE UNCTAD
COMMODITIES PROGRAM A CONDITION FOR RECEIVING OPEC ASSISTANCE.
HE STATED FURTHER THAT THIS IS EXACTLY THE SORT OF
POLITICAL PRESSURE EXACTED UPON RECIPIENT COUNTRIES
BY WESTERN INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS IN THE PAST. HE
NOTED THAT SEVERAL OPEC COUNTRIES HAD BEEN OR
WERE STILL FOREIGN ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS AND HAD
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THEMSELVES EXPERIENCED HAVING DEMEANING POLITICAL
CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO AID. AS A RESULT, THE OPEC
COUNTRIES WERE NOT ABOUT TO EMULATE THIS ATTITUDE
NOW THAT SOME OF THEM HAVE FINANCIAL SURPLUSES.

2. WHEN ASKED WHY OPEC CHOOSES TO PROVIDE AID TO
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AT ALL, SHIHATA POINTED OUT

THAT HELPING LDCS ON THE ROAD TO SELF-RELIANCE NOW
COULD LESSEN FUTURE PRESSURES ON OPEC FOR AID IN
THE FUTURE. ANOTHER FACTOR IS THAT OPEC FEELS A
FRATERNAL BOND WITH THE LDCS. SINCE OPEC MEMBER
COUNTRIES ARE NOT REALLY FAR REMOVED FROM AN UNDER-
DEVELOPED STATE THEMSELVES, THEY FEEL MORALLY
OBLIGATED TO ASSIST THE GROWTH OF THOSE LESS
FORTUNATE. BUCHANAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3002693
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TAGS: EAID, US, OPEC, UNCTAD, (SHIHATA, IBRAHIM)
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